CLAIMS

1. A negative electrode for a battery, the negative electrode comprising:

a collector;

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an active material layer provided on the collector, the active material layer including at least one kind of matter in a group consisting of an elementary substance of tin, an elementary substance of silicon, an alloy including at least one of tin and silicon, and a compound including at least one of tin and silicon; and

an inorganic compound layer provided on the active material layer, the inorganic compound layer having a chemical composition expressed by general formula (1) described below, and having lithium ion conductivity.

$$Li_xPT_yO_z \cdots (1)$$

wherein component T is at least one kind of element selected from an element group consisting of element symbols Ti, Cu, Zr, Mo, Ta, and W, and additionally x, y, and z satisfy $2.0 \le x \le 7.0$, $0.01 \le y \le 1.0$, and $3.5 \le z \le 8.0$, respectively.

2. The negative electrode for a battery according to claim 1, wherein x, y, and z satisfy $2.0 \le x \le 3.0$, $0.01 \le y \le 0.50$, and $3.5 \le z \le 4.0$, respectively, in the general formula (1).

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- 3. The negative electrode for a battery according to claim 1, wherein x, y, and z satisfy $2.0 \le x \le 3.0$, $0.01 \le y \le 1.0$, and $3.5 \le z \le 7.0$, respectively, in the general formula (1).
- 4. The negative electrode for a battery according to claim

1, wherein the active material layer includes lithium after charging.

- 5. The negative electrode for a battery according to claim
 1, wherein the active material layer includes metal and the metal is alloyed with the collector at a part of an interface with the collector.
- 6. A negative electrode for a battery, the negative 10 electrode comprising:

a collector;

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an active material layer provided on the collector, the active material layer including at least one kind of matter in a group consisting of an elementary substance of tin, an elementary substance of silicon, an alloy including at least one of tin and silicon, and a compound including at least one of tin and silicon; and

an inorganic compound layer provided on the active material layer, the inorganic compound layer having a chemical composition expressed by general formula (2) described below, and having lithium ion conductivity.

 $Li_xMO_yN_z$ · · · (2)

wherein component M is at least one kind of element selected from an element group consisting of element symbols Si, B, Ge, Al, C, Ga, and S, and additionally x, y, and z satisfy one of:

- $0.6 \leq x \leq 1.0, \ 1.05 \leq y \leq 1.99, \ \text{and} \ 0.01 \leq z \leq 0.5,$ respectively;
- $1.6 \leq x \leq 2.0, \ 2.05 \leq y \leq 2.99, \ \text{and} \ 0.01 \leq z \leq 0.5,$ 30 respectively;

 $1.6 \leq x \leq 2.0, \ 3.05 \leq y \leq 3.99, \ \text{and} \ 0.01 \leq z \leq 0.5,$ respectively; and

 $4.6 \le x \le 5.0$, $3.05 \le y \le 3.99$, and $0.01 \le z \le 0.5$, respectively.

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- 7. The negative electrode for a battery a according to claim 6, wherein the active material layer includes lithium after charging.
- 8. The negative electrode for a battery according to claim 6, wherein the active material layer includes metal and the metal is alloyed with the collector at a part of an interface with the collector.
 - 9. A battery comprising:
 - a negative electrode including:

a collector;

an active material layer provided on the collector, the active material layer including at least one kind of matter in a group consisting of an elementary substance of tin, an elementary substance of silicon, an alloy including at least one of tin and silicon, and a compound including at least one of tin and silicon;

an inorganic compound layer provided on the active
25 material layer, the inorganic compound layer having a chemical
composition expressed by general formula (1) described below,
and having lithium ion conductivity;

electrolyte conducting lithium ions; and

a positive electrode reversibly storing and releasing 30 lithium ions.

 $Li_xPT_yO_z \cdots (1)$

wherein component T is at least one kind of element selected from an element group consisting of element symbols Ti, Cu, Zr, Mo, Ta, and W, and additionally x, y, and z satisfy $2.0 \le x \le 7.0$, $0.01 \le y \le 1.0$, and $3.5 \le z \le 8.0$, respectively.

10. A battery comprising:

a negative electrode including:

a collector;

an active material layer provided on the collector, the active material layer including at least one kind of matter in a group consisting of an elementary substance of tin, an elementary substance of silicon, an alloy including at least one of tin and silicon, and a compound including at least one of tin and silicon;

an inorganic compound layer provided on the active material layer, the inorganic compound layer having a chemical composition expressed by general formula (2) described below, and having lithium ion conductivity;

electrolyte conducting lithium ions; and

a positive electrode reversibly storing and releasing lithium ions.

 $Li_xMO_yN_z$ · · · (2)

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wherein component M is at least one kind of element 25 selected from an element group consisting of element symbols Si, B, Ge, Al, C, Ga, and S, and x, y, and z satisfy one of:

- $0.6 \le x \le 1.0$, $1.05 \le y \le 1.99$, and $0.01 \le z \le 0.5$, respectively;
- $1.6 \le x \le 2.0, \ 2.05 \le y \le 2.99, \ and \ 0.01 \le z \le 0.5,$ 30 respectively;

 $1.6 \leq x \leq 2.0, \ 3.05 \leq y \leq 3.99, \ \text{and} \ 0.01 \leq z \leq 0.5,$ respectively; and

 $4.6 \leq x \leq 5.0,~3.05 \leq y \leq 3.99,~and~0.01 \leq z \leq 0.5,$ respectively.